

Dear Neighbor,

As we begin the New Year, I want to thank you for taking the time to respond to my legislative survey. Your views on healthcare, transportation, jobs and other noteworthy issues are extremely important to me. They will assist me in determining our legislative priorities for the 2006 session which begins February 8th.

As Senate chair of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, I have worked with leadership to promote fiscal responsibility. We made important improvements toward the state's commitment to cities and towns. I have included in this report a chart that details the additional aid I helped secure for Clinton.

I also served as the acting Senate chair of the Public Safety and Security Committee. Emergency Management and Homeland Security are some of the most important responsibilities of this committee. You can be assured that we are working to make our state of preparedness the best it can be and that we used the federal dollars available for this effort.

I am also reporting on legislation that passed during the Special Session. You will find the information summarized in this newsletter. It's important that you know that additional and more detailed information is available on my Web site. If you have concerns, questions, or suggestions, please call my office.

Finally, I want to congratulate the newly elected Board of Selectmen. I pledge to work with each and every member in order to serve you, the residents of Clinton.

Yours truly,

Eileen M. Daily
State Senator Eileen Daily



EILEEN M. DAILY

Legislative Office Building, Room 3700
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL PHONE: 1-800-842-1420

E-MAIL: Daily@senatedems.ct.gov

WEB: www.senatedems.ct.gov/Daily.html

*Representing the 33rd District: Chester, Clinton, Colchester,
Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam,
Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland & Westbrook*

Legislative Office Building, Room 3700
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

PSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD CT
PERMIT NO. 3937

2005 SPECIAL SESSIONS

Although the 2005 legislative session ended in June, we met in special sessions through the fall to target critical issues affecting healthcare coverage, energy and public safety. We passed legislation on the following issues:

HUSKY for Children

It was imperative that the General Assembly take action once the Department of Social Services announced that 2,200 children would lose coverage from the HUSKY health insurance program because their families could not afford the increase in premiums. The bill we passed restored funding to the state budget, thereby preventing higher premiums from taking effect.

Healthcare Benefits: ConnPACE and Medicare Part D

Many seniors who take advantage of Connecticut's excellent prescription drug program, ConnPACE, and certain Medicaid recipients, are concerned about coverage gaps once Medicare Part D takes effect. Recently passed legislation ensures that these individuals will continue to receive the same comprehensive coverage at no additional cost. The CHOICES Program provides information and can answer questions about changes to Medicare Part D. The program's toll-free phone number is **1-800-994-9422**.



Energy Assistance

With record energy prices expected this winter, a bill was approved to help low- and moderate-income families cope with rising costs of energy. The energy assistance bill: 1) increases benefits for eligible households; 2) provides new funding under the Contingency Heating Assistance Program; and 3) institutes a sales tax exemption from November 25, 2005–April 1, 2006 on certain weatherization products, including furnaces. For more information, contact the Department of Social Services at **1-800-842-1132**.

Campaign Finance Reform

I am proud to report to you that we recently enacted landmark campaign finance reform legislation that is regarded as the strongest in the country. The new act provides for public financing of campaigns at the state level beginning with the 2008 election for legislative offices and the 2010 election for statewide, elected offices. This act bans lobbyist and state contractor contributions to candidates for state offices and will severely limit the influence of special interests.

State Bonding

Along with state Representative Brian O'Connor, I worked to secure funds for future bonding projects for the Town of Clinton including:

- \$ 250,000 to the town of Clinton, for renovations to the police station.

This allocation is awaiting approval by the Governor.

State Aid for the Town of Clinton

Clinton will receive more state aid than last year to assist with school budgets, maintain roads and help pay for other general services.

	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	INCREASE FROM FY 04-05
Aid to Towns for Schools	\$5,891,308	\$6,051,233	\$159,925
Other Municipal Grants	\$270,836	\$306,869	\$36,033
Totals	\$6,162,144	\$6,358,102	\$195,958